



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

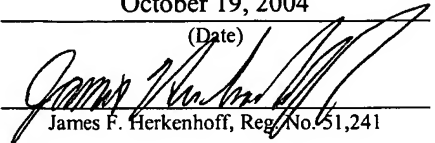
Applicant : Steven F. Bierman
Appl. No. : 10/642,445
Filed : August 15, 2003
For : CATHETER SECUREMENT
DEVICE
Examiner : Kevin C. Sirmons
Group Art Unit : 3763

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

October 19, 2004

(Date)


James F. Herkenhoff, Reg. No. 51,241

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

As set forth in the office communication dated April 19, 2004, the Examiner requires Applicant to elect a single disclosed invention.

In response, Applicant elects, without traverse, to proceed with examination being directed toward the second invention (Invention II), which is claimed in Claims 32-51 and 58-78 of the application as amended by the accompanying Preliminary Amendment. Invention II is drawn to a retainer.

Applicant further provisionally elects, without traverse, to proceed with examination directed towards the first stated species of Invention II, which is illustrated in at least FIGURES 1-13, should no generic claim eventually be held allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that at least independent Claims 32, 44, 58, and 60 are generic to all of the identified species and that Claims 33-43, 45-51, 59, and 61-78 read on at least the elected species (i.e., Species 1).

Appl. No. : 10/642,445
Filed : August 15, 2003

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for examination on the merits. If, however, the Examiner believes that any additional issue remains or requires clarification, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the attorney of record in order to more expeditiously advance the examination of this application.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: _____

10/19/04

By: _____



James F. Herkenhoff
Registration No. 51,241
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(619) 235-8550

S:\DOCS\VFH\FH-4915.DOC
101904